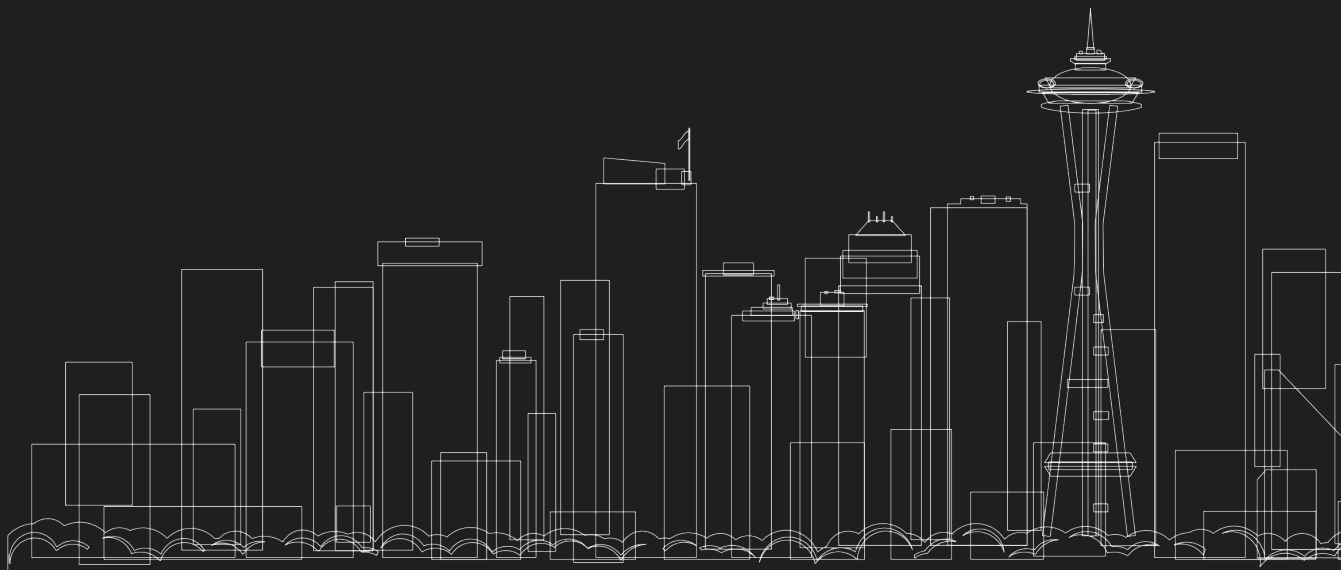


Software Development Playbook



Overview



Mesh is a software development consultancy that helps customers ship technology products faster. We do this by attracting the best software engineers and adhering to a rigorous software development process.

This document details that process and our approach to customer engagements. We provide this document to prospective customers and new employees alike. By doing so, we ensure that our customers and our engineers are on the same page when it comes to the Mesh approach to software delivery.

Project Management

Mesh runs an agile project development process. We use tools like as [Jira](#) and Gantt charts to help coordinate our development efforts and to provide customers with visibility into our development life cycle. We understand that requirements are subject to change and are happy to work with our customers to accommodate those changes.

Communication

Team communication is critical to the successful outcome of a software development project. We prefer to over-communicate with our customers to ensure that we are meeting their requirements and expectations during all phases of a project.

[Slack](#) is our primary communication tool. Slack is a team chat application that offers a beautiful interface for team communication and a robust ecosystem of plugins and apps that extend its functionality. When we kick off a project, we will create a new Slack channel for all employees involved in the customer organization.

Meetings

We try and keep meetings to a minimum so that our engineers allocate the vast majority of their time to writing software. We do, however, recommend that we participate in daily standups and weekly planning sessions with our customers.

Standups are an opportunity for the execution team to gather at the start of each day. Individuals get to state what they worked on the previous day, what they will be working on for the current day, and if anything is blocking their progress. Standups help keep teams on the same page with regard to development progress. They also provide a daily opportunity to remove blockers and solve problems.

Planning sessions provide time to review any significant milestones and accomplishments from the previous week. They also allow us to strategically plan the milestones we want to achieve over the coming week.

Sprints

A sprint is a set period of time in which a group of tasks must be completed. We find that weekly sprints work best. Software development is an iterative process, and short sprints allow us to course correct if needed without wasting much development time.

Each sprint begins with a planning session. During this session, the development team will identify a set of tasks that they will complete within the week. We also will allocate work items to individual engineers. We track sprint progress through Kanban boards on [Jira](#).

Writing Software

We have assembled a team of highly skilled software engineers that deliver high quality, well tested, thoroughly documented and maintainable software. We are thoughtful with our approach to writing software and don't try and rush out features and functionality. We understand that writing code right the first time saves a tremendous amount of time and headache in the future.

Testing Driven Development

Mesh engineers are strict practitioners of test-driven development (TDD). TDD stresses thoroughly testing all units of software produced in an automated fashion. The benefits of TDD are immense and have been well documented, but in short, TDD helps create higher

quality software in a shorter period. We outfit all code bases that we work on with a comprehensive automated test suite.

All Mesh projects are also configured with a continuous integration pipeline via a cloud CI provider. Our provider of choice is [CircleCI](#). Mesh branches cannot be merged into a master or release branch unless the build and test process passes CI.

Code Reviews

Every line of code that is produced by a Mesh engineer is peer-reviewed by another Mesh engineer. Code reviews provide an opportunity to catch mistakes before they get merged into another branch. Before merging a feature branch into a master or release branch, all code must be reviewed and approved.

Engineers from the customer organization can optionally review the code as well.

Automation

Mesh engineers automate tasks where possible to remove the potential for human error. Automation is essential when testing and deploying applications. All of our projects will be outfitted with automation scripts to handle everyday development tasks such as deploying and testing applications.

Acceptance Testing

When a task or group of tasks is complete, we deploy the code to a location where the customer can view the work. They are encouraged to exercise the functionality and validate that it behaves as expected. Once this happens, the feature is considered to be accepted and complete.